

# Kent County Influenza Surveillance Trends

Week 11/20/2016 to 11/26/2016

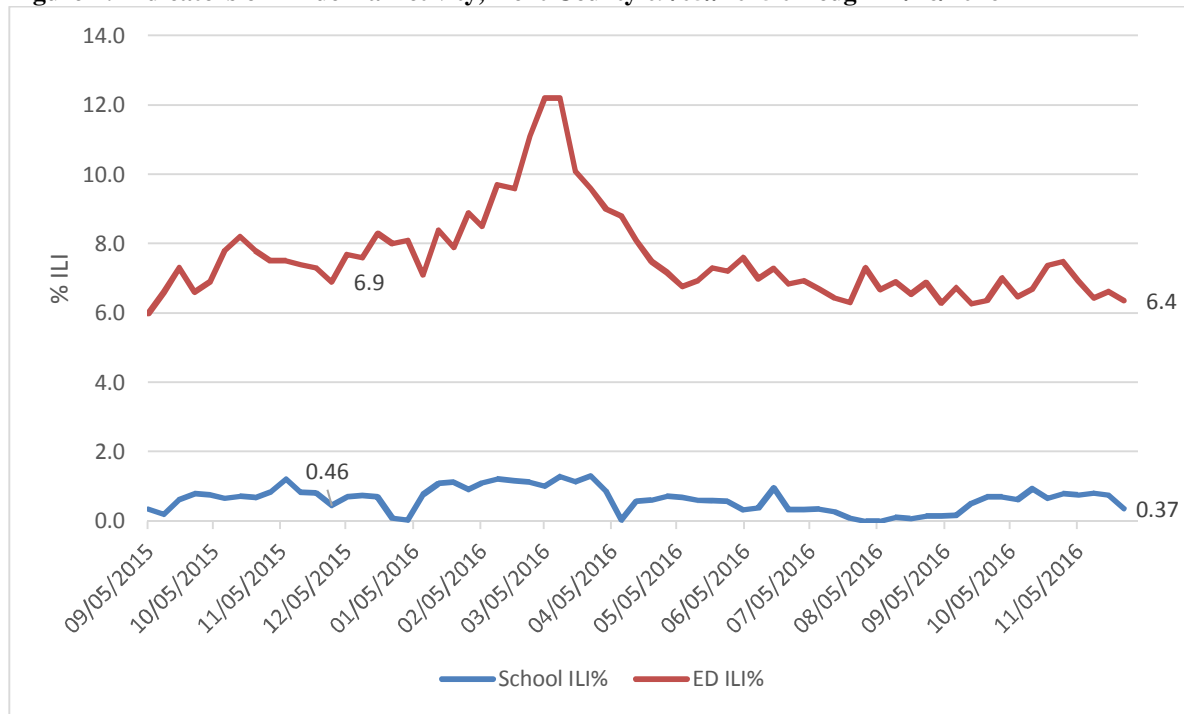
Through the week ending November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016, there have been a total of eight (8) cases of influenza reported to the Kent County Health Department (KCHD). This week, indicators of influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased from the previous week and remained below what is typically seen during this time of year. Details of influenza activity indicators (represented graphically in **Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4**) are listed below.

- **Constitutional %** - The weekly average percentage of emergency department visits for constitutional complaints (including chief complaints of fever, weakness, dizziness, temp, flu, lightheadedness, and chills) decreased from 6.6% to 6.4%. This percentage is lower than that seen last year (6.9%).
- **Constitutional % by age** - Emergency department (ED) visits for constitutional complaints in children 0-17 years of age increased slightly from 3.1% to 3.2% of all emergency department visits for this week. Visits for constitutional complaints in adults 18 years of age and older decreased from 3.6% to 3.2% of all ED visits. In comparison with this time last year, complaints are slightly lower for both children (3.4%) and adults (3.4%).
- **School ILI %** - The percentage of students absent due to influenza-like illness decreased to 0.37% in comparison to the previous week (0.75%). This decrease is likely due to the fact that school was not in session for the full week due to Thanksgiving break. This week's percentage is lower than what was seen at this point last year (0.46%).

**Table 1: Characteristics of Reported Influenza, 2016-2017**

Age Group		Influenza Type		Gender	
0-17	12.5%	A	87.5%	Male	87.5%
18-64	50%	B	12.5%	Female	12.5%
65+	37.5%				

**Figure 1: Indicators of Influenza Activity, Kent County 09/05/2015 through 11/26/2016**



**Figure 2: Constitutional Complaints as a Percentage of Total Emergency Department Visits by Age Group, Kent County, 09/01/2015 through 11/26/2016**

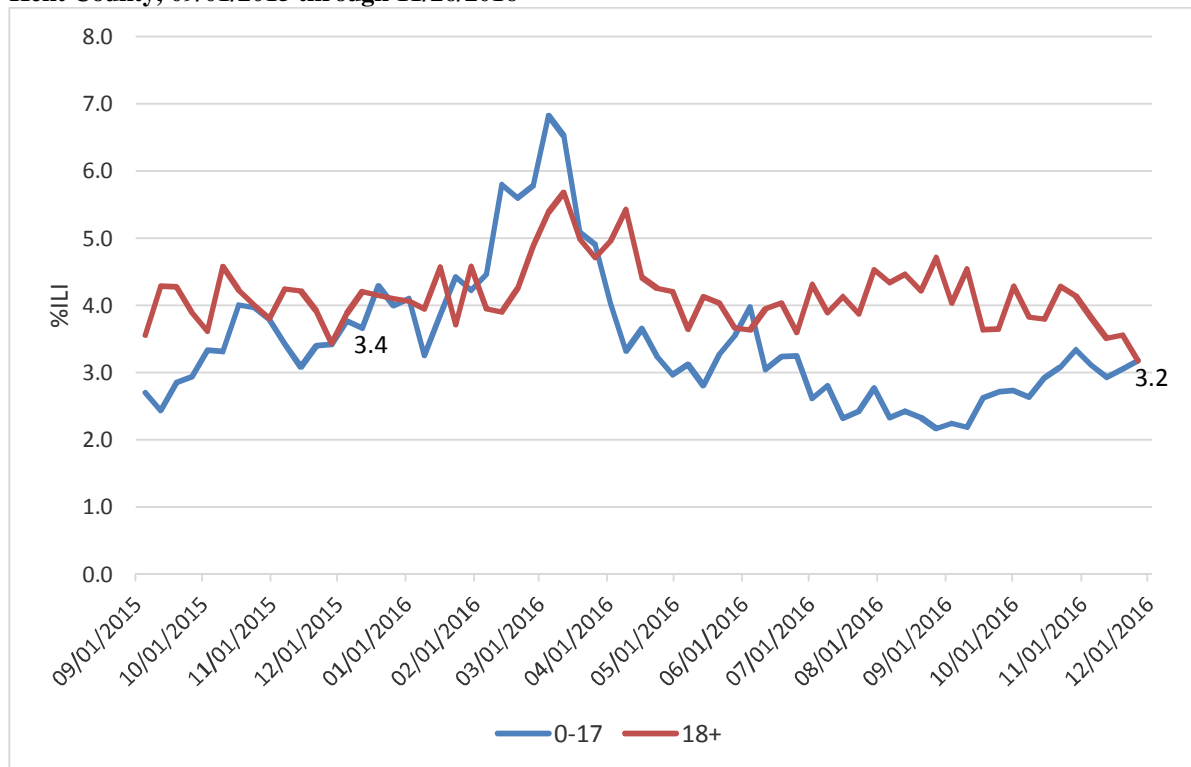
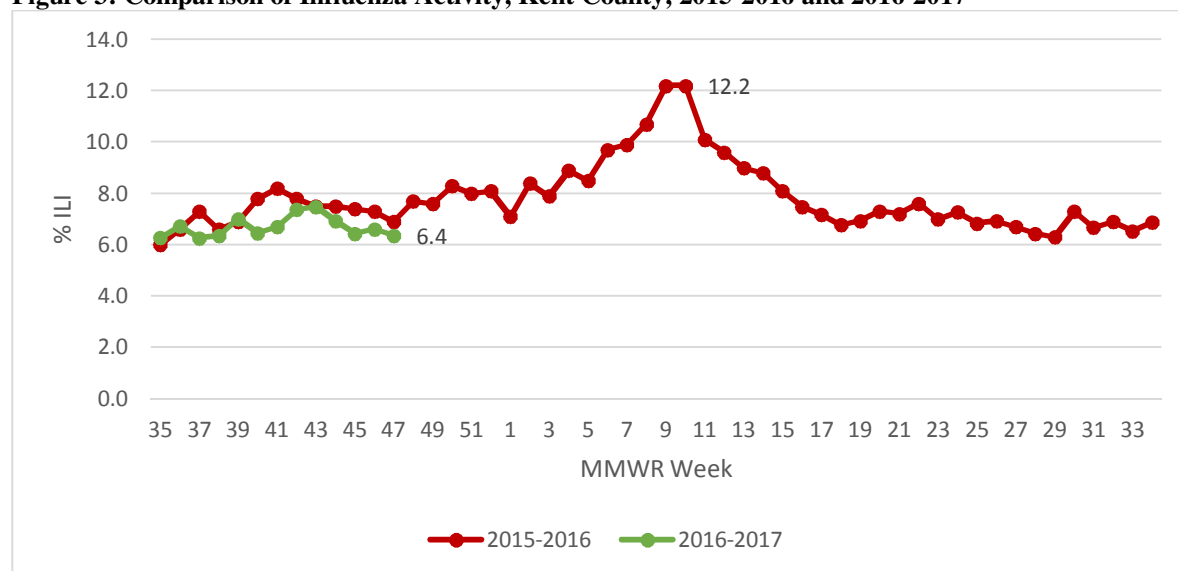


Figure 3 plots influenza activity for the current season compared to the 2015-2016 season whereas Figure 4 plots current activity compared to the average activity over the previous four influenza seasons. For comparison purposes, weeks are numbered 1-52, with week 1 being the first week ending in the month of January and week 52 the last week ending in the month of December (week ending day is Saturday). For this analysis, the influenza season is considered to begin with week 35, the first week ending in the month of September (week ending 09/03 for 2016). Both figures present the percentage of emergency department visits for constitutional complaints through week 47 (week ending 11/26/2016). It is evident from these figures that current influenza activity is lower than what is normally expected for this time of year.

**Figure 3: Comparison of Influenza Activity, Kent County, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017**



**Figure 4: Comparison of Influenza Activity, Kent County, 2016-2017 against the Four-Year Average**

